fatalities on National Highways and other Roads are as under:—

Year	National Highways		Other Roads	
	Accidents	Killed	Accidents	Killed
1983.	27303	5779	88007	11569
1984.	35135	6845	91020	12477
1985.	21670	3976	54279	7098

(b) and (c) In addition to general measures to avoid accidents on all types of roads, measures taken to improve road safety on National Highways are widening of high density corridors, 4-laning, divided carriage-ways/expressways, segregation of slow traffic, construction of by-passes iround major cities, transport Nagar.

High Cost of Wheel set

1999. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE JOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report >f 1985-86 which was published dur-ng June this year has contended hat the cost of a wheelset manufac-ured by the Wheel and Axle Plant at 3angalore is more than double the :ost of an imported wheelset;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to aodernise the Wheel and Exle Plant it Bangalore; and

(d) if so, by when and what other steps Government propose to take to wing down the prices °f articles nanufactured by Wheel and Axle 5lant at Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (d) The cost of a wheelset from Wheel and Axle Plant Banga lore was Rs. 27,036.00 in 1985-86, In the same year, the duty inclusive price of an imported wheelset was Rs. 14,500.00. The import prices have been varying from time to time and it is well known that in some countries, the price is not strictly based on cost considerations. The present day im port price is Bs. 29,000.00 and the Pos sibility that the earlier import price was merely a supported, "dump" price cannot be ruled out.

Steps have been taken to contain the cost by controlling spoilage that normally takes place in steel foundries, minimising the consumption of various materials optimising production etc. The Plant being highly automated, the number of workers have been kept to the barest minimum. Efforts are being continued to minimise addition inputs and reduce the cost of production by maximising productivity.

(c) No, Sir. Wheel and Axle Plant, Bangalore was commissioned in Sep tember 1984 only and is a fairly modern plant.